



News Release

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Office of Inspector General
Washington, DC 20546

For Release
August 17, 1999

Roberta L. Gross
Inspector General
(Phone: 202-358-1220)

Thomas J. Talleur
Director, Computer Crimes Division
(Phone: 202-358-2587)

RELEASE: 99-040

Swedish "Hackers" Charged in NASA Computer Crime Case

Two Swedish citizens have been charged by Swedish prosecutors for illegal intrusions or "hacker" attacks into NASA's network communication systems, as well as those of United States military systems. Charles Malm, 25, and Joel Sodeberg, 24, of Stockholm, face a maximum sentence of two years in jail and/or fines that could be imposed by the judicial system under Swedish law if they are convicted of the charges.

The charges filed by Swedish authorities cite illegal intrusions into United States military systems as well as NASA network communication systems at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL), Pasadena, California, and the Lewis Research Center, now known as the Glenn Research Center (GRC) at Lewis Field, Cleveland, Ohio, during the fall of 1996. Damages to NASA systems at the JPL totaled \$84,100 while damages to GRC systems totaled approximately \$75,000.

The prosecution stems from a joint investigation by Special Agents of the NASA Office of Inspector General, Computer Crimes Division, Office of Criminal Investigations; Air Force Office of Special Investigations; and officers of the Swedish National Police. The Swedish National Prosecutors Office is handling the prosecution.

- End -